

# PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION SCAMS

Companies using official-sounding names like “Tax Review,” “Tax Adjusters” and “Tax Reassessment” seek to scam homeowners who are worried about their property taxes and declining property values. They send misleading mailers that look like official government agency documents to trick you into sending them money to try to lower your property taxes. They also use addresses like “Regional Processing Center” to make you think the mail is coming from a government agency. Sometimes, they threaten to impose a late fee if you don’t send them money by a certain date.

**Don’t be fooled.** Government agencies don’t charge for tax reassessment — *it’s free*. If your property has declined in value and you think your property tax is incorrect, you can request a review of your property from your local tax assessor. For more information, contact your county tax assessor’s office.

## **What you can do to avoid becoming a victim:**

- DON’T PAY MONEY FOR SOMETHING YOU DID NOT ASK FOR.
- CONTACT YOUR COUNTY ASSESSOR’S OFFICE DIRECTLY, DON’T PAY FOR A MIDDLEMAN.
  - San Bernardino County Assessor’s Office  
[www.sbcounty.gov/assessor/FreeServices.asp](http://www.sbcounty.gov/assessor/FreeServices.asp)

**IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF THIS SCAM**, you can file a complaint with the Attorney General’s Public Inquiry Unit at <http://ag.ca.gov/consumers/general.php> or by writing to:

P.O. Box 944255  
Sacramento, CA 94244.